

In 1993, Senator Goldwater penned an op-ed for the Washington Post and the Los Angeles Times where he stated, "It's no great secret that military studies have proved again and again that there's no valid reason for keeping the ban on gays." I ask my colleagues to remember Senator Goldwater's words and to vote "yes" on this amendment.

#### HONORING SOMERVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Somerville Fire Department, located in Somerset County, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 175th Anniversary.

In 1835, the Somerville Fire Department originated with the creation of the Washington Fire Company on the present day site of the Somerset County Courthouse yard. The original companies included: Union Fire Company No. 1, Jersey Blue Fire Company No. 2, Somerville Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1 and Steamer Hose Company No. 1. Today, the oldest surviving Engine Company is Engine Company No. 1 which was formed in 1878.

In 1880, several members of the Engine Company No. 1 realized that a hook and ladder truck was necessary to continue serving the community. These men resigned to form the Central Hook and Ladder Company. Eight years later, in 1888, the West End Hose Company No. 3 was organized in response to a citizen's petition for better fire protection on the west end of town. This company was formed with past members of the original Union Engine Company No. 1 and acquired their apparatus, building and grounds.

Another component of Engine Company No. 1 was a group of young firemen, known at the time as the Engine Company Cadets. After a series of differences with the older men of the company, the Cadets broke away from the paternal organization to form the Lincoln Hose Company in 1891.

By 1893, the Somerville Fire Department had placed fire boxes in eight locations around the town to better serve Somerville residents.

In 1916, the West End Hose Company received the first motor apparatus of the Somerville Fire Department. Eight years later, the Borough provided the Central Hook and Ladder Company with a motorized Seagrave truck with a booster tank and a complete set of wooden ladders. Every 20 years thereafter, the borough provided the company with new apparatus.

Then, in 1969, the West End Hose Company moved from its former headquarters on Doughty Avenue to a new firehouse on High Street. Five years later, the Lincoln Hose company erected its new headquarters on Warren Street at no cost to local taxpayers.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, members of the Somerville Fire Department spent weeks in New York City participating in the rescue and recovery efforts. Today, the Somerville Fire Department con-

tinues a long and proud tradition of serving its community and surrounding municipalities, when called upon, with mutual assistance.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Somerville Fire Department and its firefighters for one hundred and seventy five years of dedicated and admirable service.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF LYLE FRANK FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AS CHAIRMAN OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 6

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the achievements of Mr. Lyle Frank on the occasion of his retirement as Chairman of New York City's Community Board 6. A tireless and dedicated community activist and civic volunteer, Lyle Frank is a consummate New Yorker who has distinguished himself in his career in both the public and private sectors.

A respected attorney, Lyle Frank has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to serving others through his public and community service. After graduating from New York University and Brooklyn Law School, Mr. Frank began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Kings County, where he presented arguments in the "Megan's Law" hearings. He continued his legal career at Callan, Koster, Brady & Brennan, LLP, and later at Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker, LLP, serving as a lead attorney in New York Supreme Court trials involving personal injury. Currently a small claims arbitrator for the New York County Civil Court, he serves as Legal Counsel for the New York City Council's Committees on Parks and Recreation and on Lower Manhattan Redevelopment. Mr. Frank is also an adjunct professor at the New York University School of Continuing and Professional Studies. Most recently, he became an adjunct professor at Baruch College, where he is an advisor to students in the National Urban Fellowship Program that prepares students for leadership and management positions in government or non-profit agencies.

It is for his volunteer service as a Member and Chairman of Community Board 6 for which Mr. Frank is being honored by his fellow Board members and community residents on the evening of June 21, 2010. Community Board 6, which encompasses the East Side of Manhattan from 14th to 59th Streets along the East River, serves as the representative town meeting of the historic and nationally prominent neighborhoods that lie within its boundaries. It thus provides a voice to community residents and their concerns, running the gamut of issues from land use to traffic to sanitation and beyond. After joining the Board in 1994, Mr. Frank became a dedicated and energetic representative for his fellow citizens. His leadership abilities were recognized when he was elected Chairman of Manhattan's Community Board 6 in January of 2006. He has just concluded four years as Chairman. Community Board 6 residents are fortunate

that Lyle Frank will continue to serve their interests as a Member of the Board. Throughout all his professional and voluntary activity, Lyle Frank has fought for and secured immeasurable improvements to the quality of life of his fellow Manhattan residents.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of his tremendous contributions to the civic and public life of our nation's greatest city, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Mr. Lyle Frank, a great New Yorker and a great American. Lyle Frank's dedication to public and community serves as an inspiration to us all.

#### ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO DEFEND ITS BORDERS

#### HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, the loss of life is always regrettable, but it is wrong for members of the international community to rush to judgment against Israel with respect to the Gaza flotilla incident. Israel has a right to protect its borders and defend itself against terrorism.

The terrorist group Hamas is engaged in a war against Israel from inside Gaza. Israel unilaterally withdrew from Gaza in 2005 in the hopes of furthering peace. Instead, Hamas consolidated its power in Gaza and launched thousands of rockets and mortar shells against innocent Israeli civilians. Israel's blockade is an act of self-defense—a necessity to deny Hamas the weaponry it needs to continue in its acts of aggression.

Israel was willing to cooperate in a manner to ensure the flow of humanitarian aid to Gaza, as it has in the past. However, organizers of the flotilla appeared intent on provoking confrontation. Video has been released which indicates Israeli soldiers came under violent attack first, before the Israelis switched from using paint guns to using pistols in their own apparent self-defense.

The knee-jerk condemnation of Israel by some in the world community obscures two important facts that should never be forgotten: First, Israel is a democracy and an ally of the United States with a right to protect itself. Second, Hamas is a terrorist group that refuses to recognize the right of Israel to peaceably exist. As an investigation into the specific facts of the incident proceed, we must ensure that it is both balanced and respectful of these underlying facts.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 9, 2010*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on Tuesday, June 8, 2010, I missed two recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall 337 and "yea" on Rollcall 338.